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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 09812.0142  
CUSTOMER NUMBER 22,852

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. national phase of )  
PCT/JP2004/003580 )  
 ) Group Art Unit: N/A  
Inventor: Norifumi KIKKAWA et al. )  
 ) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned )  
 )  
Filed: September 23, 2005 )  
 )  
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING  
APPARATUS, INFORMATION  
PROCESSING METHOD, AND  
COMPUTER PROGRAM

**MAIL STOP: PCT**

**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.